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Diana T Fritz 03/20/2007 05:32:05 PM From DB/Inbox: Search Results

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Text:

UNCLASSIFIED

SIPDIS
TELEGRAM

September 03, 2003

To: No Action Addressee
Action: Unknown
From: AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI (ABU DHABI 4021 - ROUTINE)
TAGS: SENV, ECON
Captions: None
Subject: FALCON SMUGGLING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST UAEG
OFFICIALS
Ref: None

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 04021

SIPDIS
CXABU:
ACTION: ECON
INFO: P/M AMB DCM POL
Laser1:
INFO: FCS

DISSEMINATION: ECON
CHARGE: PROG

APPROVED: CDA: RAALBRIGHT
DRAFTED: ECON: GARANA
CLEARED: ECON: OBJOHN

VZCZCADI096
RR RUEHC
DE RUEHAD #4021 2461044
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 031044Z SEP 03
FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1531

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 004021

SIPDIS

STATE FOR OES

FOR DINT/USGS/RGARMON

SENSITIVE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: SENV ECON TC
SUBJECT: FALCON SMUGGLING ALLEGATIONS AGAINST UAEG
OFFICIALS

¶1. (U) This is an action request; please see paragraph
¶4.

¶2. (SBU) U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) scientist Dr. David Ellis made explicit allegations against Abu Dhabi Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Shaykh Hamdan bin Zayed Al Nahyan for involvement in falcon smuggling in a paper he presented at the World Working Group of Birds of Prey Conference in Hungary in May 2003. Secretary General of the Environmental Research and

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Wildlife Development Agency (ERWDA) Mejad Al Mansouri has inquired repeatedly of the Embassy if Dr. Ellis was presenting his own views at the Conference or speaking on behalf of the USG when he presented his paper.

¶3. (SBU) We are unable to determine from available information whether his paper represented his personal opinion or USG views. In a conversation with the Charge, Mansouri alleged that the paper Dr. Ellis presented at the Conference had a Department of Interior logo. However, on Dr. Ellis' website, the paper he delivered at the Conference appears to indicate that he is representing an Institute for Raptor Studies based in Oracle, Arizona. We have been unable to obtain any information about this Institute. On the website devoted to the Conference, the abstract of Dr. Ellis' oral presentation cites his name and the USGS Southwest Biological Science Center, but then lists the address of the Institute and a personal email address. Post has not/ not contacted Dr. Ellis directly.

¶4. (SBU) Action request: Embassy Abu Dhabi would like to respond to the UAEG's inquiries and find out if Dr. Ellis was presenting his own opinions or speaking on behalf of the USG at the World Working Group of Birds of Prey Conference. End Action request.
Albright